

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105743
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /070 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:KGUTHRIE:JK
APPROVED BY S/AB:AMB. POPPER
USOAS - MR. TRAGEN
-----054932 260535Z /10
R 252302Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105743

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, OAS, PINT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE OAS RESOLUTION ON CANAL TREATIES

1. IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADORS POPPER AND MCGEE APRIL 25
PANAMANIAN OAS AMBASSADOR PITTI REITERATED PANAMA'S DESIRE
FOR OAS ACTION AFFIRMING THAT CANAL TREATIES AND SENATE
RESOLUTIONS APPROVING THEM CANNOT CONTRAVENE PRINCIPLE OF
NON-INTERVENTION ESTABLISHED IN OAS AND UN CHARTERS. PITTI
ASSERTED THAT PANAMA WAS NOT ALONE IN BEING CONCERNED ABOUT
EFFECT OF DECONCINI RESERVATION; OTHER LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRIES (HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHICH) HAD INFORMED PANAMA
THEY WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ADHERE TO NEUTRALITY PROTOCOL
UNTIL NON-INTERVENTION QUESTION CLARIFIED.

2. PITTI PRESENTED TEXT OF PROPOSED OAS COUNCIL RESOLUTION
WHICH WAS SOMEWHAT LESS UNACCEPTABLE THAN TEXT WE RECEIVED
EARLIER THROUGH AMBASSADOR LEWIS. WE EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT
FROM US STANDPOINT IT SEEMED BETTER TO DEFER RAISING MATTER
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IN OAS PRIOR TO POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO PANAMA AND
THAT WE PREFERRED TO DEFER ANY OAS ACTION TO JUNE OAS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHEN U.S. AND PANAMA COULD PRESENT
MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION, WHICH WOULD BALANCE
SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLES OF NON-INTERVENTION AND CANAL
NEUTRALITY. PITTI STRESSED PANAMA DID NOT WISH TO CAUSE

DIFFICULTIES FOR U.S. AND WOULD CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO
LEAVE MATTER TO OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF WE SO DESIRED.

3. WE INTEND TO AVOID ANY UNDUE HASTE IN NEGOTIATING
TEXTS WITH PITTL. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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